

*K. Philadelphia.*  
A 1466

# LETTER

FROM A

CLERGYMAN in DUBLIN,

TO A

CLERGYMAN in CORK.

In Answer to a LETTER published in  
*Dublin, Dec. 8th, 1749.* Vindi-  
cating the Conduct of the Bishop of  
*Cork*, in the Degradation of Mr.  
*Dallas.*

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PROV. Chap xii. Ver. 13. & 19.

*The Wicked is snared by the Transgression of his Lips,  
but the just shall come out of Trouble.*

*The Lip of Truth shall be established for ever, but a ly-  
ing Tongue is but for a Moment.*

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D U B L I N :

Printed in the Year MDCCXLIX.

*Dec 9*

LETTER

THOMAS

CLIFFORD



From the British Museum

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Printed in the Year 1880



A

## L E T T E R, &amp;c.

*Dear Sir,*

Dublin Dec. 9th. 1749.

**Y**OU and I have often admired, when Mr. D—ll—s first published the State of his Affair with his L—ship of *Cork*, that an Answer was not given on the Bishop's Side, to so severe a Charge vouched with the Names of particular Persons well known, and that his L—ship did not clear up such an Imputation on his Conduct and Character, while Facts were yet recent, and while Words and Things were fresh and lively, in every Body's Memory.

And I remember that you frequently surmis'd, that hereafter when Words, Facts, and the Circumstances of them, should be almost forgot; and the Impressions that were then on Men's Minds, and their Indignation and Resentments of foul Play and  
cruel

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cruel Usage should be lessened by length of Time, and worn off: That then there might appear some Person to address the Public in Vindication of the B——p's Conduct, who by a plausible Story, by palliating Matters, and by glossing and colouring over Words and Facts, would puzzle and perplex People's Minds and Memories, and thus by making the Water muddy, might either attempt to make Truth sink to the Bottom, or at least to vanish and disappear for awhile.

This, Sir, is now come to pass, for after eight or nine Months silence, yesterday came out a Pamphlet, intituled, *A Letter from a Clergyman of the Diocese of Cork to his Friend in Dublin*; relating the Conduct of the B—p of *Cork* in the Degradation of Mr. D—ll—s. Wherein the Author so intermingles Truth with Falshood, Facts with Fictions, so alters and confuses Things with their Order and Manner, and so narrates the Reasons for them and Conversations upon them: That by a tedious, dull, and insipid Story of Matters varnished, misrepresented and feigned, he leads us into a wild Labyrinth, and by introducing Dialogues of the Bishop and Dean, of the Bishop and this Author; and then Conversations of this same Bishop with his Vicar General, his Clergy, and Mr. *Dallas*, and such a chit chat Tale of what He said, and I said, and such tittle tattle of, Is it not so, says the Bishop to Mr. Dean, and it is just so, as your Lordship says, answered the Dean: That he seems only to have intended to buzz us into Confusion, in order to divert us from Truth and Facts.

Before I detect the several Mistakes and Evasions of this Vindicator of the Bishop's Conduct, I must premise that his Letter is a Pamphlet of 33 Pages, whereof about 27 contain every minute and individual



dual Word, spoken in several Conversations eight Months ago. Now how marvellous and astonishing must that Memory be, that retains so much ! and no less amazing and extraordinary must be the Assurance of that Man, who pretends to remember punctually every Word of it, and upon his sole Faith, without any other Authority offered, expects our Belief of all he says, tho' he has not so much as sign'd his Name to his Narrative, which perhaps is the only wise Step he has taken.

It must be a false Rumour, that the B——p of C——k's Brother, Dr. Br——n, is the Writer of this Letter, for it is unworthy of him, and I rather believe, that an Enemy of his L——ship under the Disguise and pretended Name of a Friend, has by a sham Vindication of the Conduct and Honour of the Person he undertakes to defend, wretchedly betrayed his Cause and brought a far greater Imputation on his Honour, and Conduct, than ever Mr. D——ll——s attempted, by any thing he published.—For it will be evidently demonstrated, that he has ignorantly given up, or proved the Parts of the Story he should have concealed and suppressed ; that he has clear'd, where he ought to have charg'd home, and condemned what he took upon him to defend.

You and I who have a good Remembrance of this Affair must be amazed to see one endeavour not only to impose on the World for Facts, Things which never existed, and pervert Men's Words to a Meaning they never intended, and contrary to their Sentiments, but also to put Speeches in the Mouths of Men of Sense, Reason and Learning, quite alien from their Thoughts and Purposes ; and in short, to assume to himself upon the Stock of his nameless Credit, the sole Right of telling the Story his own  
Way

Way, and that without Voucher, Evidence or Foundation.

Mr. *D—ll—s* has narrated Facts, and produced Evidences of Persons, Letters, or Papers for whatever he affirmed, and if he has appealed to the World in a Falshood, he has given the Bishop and his Friends vast Advantage over him, to detect the Untruths and Impositions, and undeceive the World in a Matter of such Consequence to all the Parties concerned in it: And it was highly the Interest of the Bishop to have done so early, or if he attempted it even now, though somewhat too late, should have been done effectually and demonstrably to the Conviction of all Men.

The Sum and Substance of Mr. *D—ll—s*'s Charge against the B-p of *C-rk* is, that when he prepared to make a good Defence in this Cause, and began with giving the B-p legal Notice, that he was to plead the Renunciation of the Judge as partial, claimed a Nomination of Arbitrators, or Provocation to his Grace of *Cashell*, whereby either the B-p of *Cork*, was not to be his Judge, or if he should, both the B-p and Mr. *D—ll—s* well knew, that it was impossible and impracticable to prove the alledged Crime, in the *Consistory Court* of *C-rk*: But, that he was cut off from this legal and good Defence, by Hopes and Promises of Favour and Impunity, made to him in the B-p's Name, and at his Desire, by Mr. Dean *M—d* of *C--k*, and others. That upon the Faith of this, he made a frank and free Confession of the Fact, but not of Guilt, and an intire Submission, and unreserved and unconditional Resignation to the B-p of *C-rk*, and that by this he suffered; for upon this sole Submission, the B-p of *C-rk* founded a Sentence of Degradation, and in Precipitation, and without due Form of Law, pronounced

nounced it unknown to him, his Lawyers, Civilians or Proctor.

This is his plain and brief Account without Confusion and Perplexity, and now let us see what this Revd. and learned Vindicator of the B—p's Conduct, answers to it.

This amazing Sophister, in Order to prove that the B—p of C—rk did not take off Mr. D—ll—s from his Defence, or desire him to confess and submit in Hopes of Favour and Pardon, tells us in *Page 8th*, but after his unfair and aukward Manner, how the B—p contrived by the Mediation of Mr. Dean M—d, to prevail with M. D—ll—s to drop his Appeal to *Casbell*, and save himself from Ruin by Submission and Obedience. So that this Vindicator allows, that the B—p, *Page 8th*, treated with Dean M—d, a Friend and near Relation to Mr. D—ll—s about saving him, but gives us a fictitious Narrative of their Conversation, artfully changed, turned and twisted, composed at his Leisure in his Closet. But the true Conversation on *Sunday* delivered to Mr. D—ll—s by the Dean on *Monday* immediately following before Persons of Fortune and Honour, will in proper Time appear to the Confutation of this pretended Vindicator. He was aware of this, and therefore afterwards makes the B—p in Visitation explain it away thus, *Page 26*, that he only gave Hints, Looks, Insinuations, Gestures, that he might be merciful upon a proper Submission in Mr. D—ll—s. What a strange Medly is here of promising and half promising, revoking and qualifying, of half owning and half denying what had passed.

The next Thing you and every reasonable Man would expect, from the proposed Design and Intent



of this obscure Author, was to shew, that Mr. D—ll—s was so obstinate, and hardened, that he hindered all the kind Intent of this merciful Bishop and Judge, by refusing a Submission, but instead of that, he very gravely acquaints us, *Page 9th*, that much against the B-p's Will, this obdurate and hardened Transgressor, this perverse Man, who would wilfully destroy himself in spight of the tender B-p, went to Court, confessed and submitted, and in the *11th Page*, for fear we should doubt or forget it, produces a Copy of this fatal Submission and Confession.

This is a new and strange Way of defending the Conduct of the B-p, and proving the Perverseness of Mr. D—ll—s. By acquainting us that it was on *Sunday* the B-p proposed it to Mr. Dean M—d as he was putting on his Habit, and on the very next *Tuesday*, this inflexible stubborn Mr. D—ll—s goes and readily makes Submission.

It must appear to every Reader, that the Author's principal View throughout the whole Letter, is to represent the B-p as tender, merciful, unwilling to proceed with Rigour against Mr. D—ll—s, but doing it at last, in a Hurry, but with great Reluctancy. And at the same Time to describe Mr. D—ll—s, as a stubborn, abusive, disobedient Offender, but, alas! how miserably has he managed both these grand Points of his.

Let us try how he proves these two Assertions of the B-p's Tenderness, and Mr. D—ll—s's Obstinacy, and you will be surprized at his Arguments, to prove these his main Intents. For 1st, he proves that his L—sh-p was tender, merciful and compassionate, from his L—sh-p's own Lips and Words, for he declared so first in the Court of *Common Pleas*, and promised

promised there to save Mr. D—ll—s if his own Obstinacy did not prevent the B-p's pure and charitable Intent, and cites his L—sh-p's Words for it, *Page 7th*. The same merciful Intention is declared again to Mr. Dean M——d, and to the Author of this Letter in private Consultation at full Length, in *Pages 12, 13, 14*. And in the *Consistory Court*, the B-p repeats it again, *Pages 15 and 16*, and finally, in the Visitation the B-p proclaims his Mercy again. All which Declarations Mr. D—ll—s at first believed, and trusted to them, and you know the Event.

His next Proof of his L—dsh-p's Clemency insinuated and strangely carried on throughout the whole Letter, is the B—p's Anxiety and Perturbation of Mind expressed to the Author of this Letter, and others during the whole Trial. But why does not this Author speak out plainly, the Cause of this Anguish? For by doing so, he would have cleared up the Point of Fact in Dispute, between his L—sh-p of C—— and Mr. D—ll—s, and seeing he has omitted it, I shall do it with all the Truth, Perspicuity and Brevity I can.

Mr. Dean M——d in the B-p's Name, proposed a Submission in Court for the Offence, Mr. D—ll—s had given to the Authority and Jurisdiction of the B-p. This Mr. D—ll—s did first in Court, and again in the Visitation, and was judged by him and most of the Clergy, an ample Satisfaction. But the B-p wanted a Parade of an insulting Triumph, that in all his Pomp and Pr-de, sitting in his Throne before a Congregation, and the Town gathered about to the Spectacle, that Mr. D—ll—s should do Penance, and read a Confession of Crimes against God and Man.

Mr. D-ll-s doubts not, nor will dispute the Purity of the B-p's Intention, or his Mercy, but leaves that to God, the only Judge of our Hearts, and the World will judge of our Intents, by Facts and Events, and not by solemn Declarations, but the perplexed Way of the Letter describes it thus,

The Assurances and Encouragement to Mr. D-ll-s and his Friends we see, were sufficient to procure his Confession and Submission; but how shall he make the World believe, that they were not also sufficient to bind the B-p to Favour and Pardon. No Wonder then, that the Author of this Letter represents him as under violent Struggles, between different Passions, for how could he both break, and yet make it appear he had kept his Promise. What an Agony and Agitation of Mind and Spirits doth this Author describe: And no Wonder, for how cou'd this Author prove him to be both merciful and tender, and yet use Mr. D-ll-s cruelly and unbrotherly. In a Word, how he cou'd yet break Faith, and disgrace Mr. D-ll-s, and yet preserve his Character of Justice and Truth? This was the great Conflict, and therefore our Author represents him all along as mighty anxious and uneasy. And he can best resolve us, whether all this was a real Concern for poor Mr. D-ll-s, or is only a Flourish of our Author, and meer Grimace?

But it is Time to proceed next to see whether this Author succeeds better in proving the other great Point, which he so often repeats, viz. the incorrigible Obduracy of Mr. D-ll-s, his continued Insults offered to the Ecclesiastical Institution, his Disobedience and Disregard to the Episcopal Office, his Abuse of the B-p, and evil Treatment of his L-d-p. Read over the Letter, he offers not one Instance of  
it



it either from the Actions or Language of Mr. *D-ll-s* (except one Paragraph in the Apology to be answered hereafter) on the contrary by his own Story, Page 10. of his ready Submission to the B-p, his Adversary in Contradiction to himself, and in Vindication of Mr. *D-ll-s*, demonstrates that this whole Charge is false, Page 11.

Tho' the B-p had not given Mr. *D-ll-s* or his Friends any Assurances of his Favour upon Submission, yet one wou'd think his open and sincere Acknowledgment, his unreserved and simple Resignation, to the B-p's Pleasure, might have entitled him to the Tendernefs of a B-p so merciful: And much more when the B-p cou'd not be ignorant that it proceeded from his own acknowledged Application to Dean *Mead*. Yet when this abusive and reviling Man, claims the promised Tendernefs from the B-p and Court, let any Man judge whether he cou'd do it with more Caution and Modesty, than in the following Words of his Apology, *Dublin* printed, Pages 12 and 13.

“ The concurrent Opinion of my Friends, and  
 “ the Assurances given me of good Usage and Safe-  
 “ ty in this Court, together with my own Inclina-  
 “ tions to Peace, made me acknowledge the Fact,  
 “ and submit. And I hope, I shall not repent of  
 “ it, but meet with the promised Tendernefs and  
 “ Regard for a Brother, but once offending, and  
 “ now acknowledging and submitting.”

But says the Vindicator, this Apology was Abusive, an Insult on, and ill Treatment of the B-p, but takes no pains to inform his Readers, of the Reasons why he thinks it so.

Only

Only to perplex and puzzle us, he calls it a *Petition*, that People may look for that Abuse in some other Paper, which no Man can meet with in the *Apology*. It has now been published for eight Months, and reprinted in *London, Dublin*, and other Places, and no Man but this Author has found Contempt of Canons, Laws, or Bishops in it, but it is justly esteemed by the World to be an humble Remonstrance against a severe Sentence, for what the common Sense of Mankind, judge to be only a *Peccadillo*, and a small Offence. As for his Complaint of Mr. *D-ll-s*'s publishing it, the B-p had in open Court, call'd it False, Scandalous and Malicious, and so laid him under a Necessity of showing People what this condemned Paper was, lest they shou'd think it something worse.

In Page 15. the Author of this Epistle, quote the Passage of the *Apology* he calls Insolent, and by which Mr. *D-ll-s* used the B-p of *C—k*, so as no Bishop was ever treated in his own Court, and in the midst of his Clergy. For, says he, at the latter End of his *Petition*, he bids the B-p lay his Hand upon his Heart, and look up to that God, who is to be the Judge of the Quick and of the Dead, &c. I cannot find out the Abuse and Affront offered to the B-p in all this.

Had Mr. *D-ll-s* stood before the Tribunal of a King, or an Emperor, where was the Affront to appeal to the God of Truth, or to put any mortal Man in mind, that he is accountable to Almighty God, the Supreme Judge of the World? Was it an Insult and Abuse for St. *Paul* at *Cæsar's* Tribunal, to Reason before *Felix* the Roman Governor, of Judgment to come, which the sacred Writer tells us, made him tho' a Heathen tremble? And was not this

this Apology directed to the Vicar General, the Surrogate, and all the Clergymen who were to assist the B-p, and among them, where was the ill Treatment, the Abuse to say, we must all appear before the Judgment Seat of Christ? I wish this dark and mysterious Writer wou'd explain himself, and make us know how this was reviling and abusing a B-p.

Had the Author of this Letter, wrote with more Light, Sincerity and Candor, he wou'd have plainly told us that Mr. *D-ll-s*'s Obstinacy, so hateful to the B-p was, because he cou'd not, consistent with Reason, Conscience, or Truth, Sign in the Visitation, and read in the Congregation, the B-p's Form of Submission, offered to him in the Visitation. But he takes care always to touch this Part of the Story obscurely, and endeavours to throw his Reader into Perplexity and Obscurity about it.

This Form we have in Mr. *D-ll-s*'s Narrative, *Dublin* printed, Pages 26, 27, 28 and 29. In which Mr. *D-ll-s* was by the B-p's Order, to confess himself, and consequently all Clergymen who had done so, by marrying any Couple in a private House, guilty of a high Crime, worthy of Degradation, and to profess Repentance for it openly in the Congregation, to own that he had opposed the Institution of Jesus Christ, and of his Apostles; that he had denied the Authority of the Bishops, of Laws, Civil and Ecclesiastical, that he had calumniated the Church, the Bishops, the Clergy, the Canons, that for all this he was not even an Object of Mercy and Compassion, but very worthy of Infamy and Degradation, &c. &c. I expected that this Vindicator wou'd have attempted to prove that Mr. *D-ll-s* was guilty of all these Crimes and Misdemeanours, but as this was not to be done, that he wou'd have proved



proved that this righteous Judge as he calls him, had good Right and Reason to force a Clergyman into such a Confession, whether he was conscious to himself of Guilt, or not ; and that in Case he refused Obedience to such a Command, that for that Stubbornness, and not for the Marriage of Mr. *Ol v-r*, he cou'd with Justice, degrade him—and finally, from the Thread of his Discourse, he was to show that all this was Mercy and Lenity, in order to compleat the Vindication of the Conduct he took upon him to defend.

And thus I have gone thro' the general Subject of this Letter, and Facts in Dispute, as far as this Writer has treated them, and as well as I cou'd trace out this dark and mysterious Vindicator, thro' all the intricate Mazes, and in Spight of the thick Fogs and Mists, which either thro' Design, or a confusion of Thought, he has cast upon his Subject.—His Narrative of Facts agrees in Matter, but not in Manner with that published by Mr. *D-ll-s*, only he takes Care to omit every Thing that makes for him, to gloss over what he cannot well deny, and make a plausible Excuse, or cover with a multiplicity of unmeaning and unintelligible Words, what he despairs to vindicate.

The remaining Part of the Letter consisting mostly of different Words, Speeches and Conversation from those represented by Mr. *D-ll-s*, will depend chiefly upon Testimony of Persons present, and in my next, I shall point out the many Contradictions often to Truth, and sometimes to himself. The numerous Mistakes, Absurdities, and superfluous Repetitions, used by this Epistolary Author, will afford subject enough for a Letter or two more, after I shall have your Answer, and know your Sentiments of this Vindicator's Letter. But because there is something  
rude

rude and uncivil, as well as very unpleasant and disagreeable, for Gentlemen and Clergymen, to charge one another with Contradictions, and to prove and disapprove gross Mistakes, I hope the Author of this Letter will either retract about 30 or 40 of them, whose Page and Line I have mark'd, or prepare such Proof and Vouchers for them, besides his own Word, that he may be at no Loss when call'd on to make them good.——For barely to deny and contradict where the Letter has so roundly asserted, wou'd be to engage in endless Altercation, and Evidence of Witnesses present, must and can only decide it. But I am sure it will appear in the Sequel of this Dispute, that every Conversation, Speech and Transaction, is unfairly and grossly misrepresented in this Letter.

His Usage of Mr. Dean *M—d*, whom he makes the Tool of all the B-p's Schemes, and the Eccho to all his Yeas and Noes, will undoubtedly meet with a deserved Reply. And his Misrepresentation of the Words and Speeches of the Vicar General and other worthy and learned Clergymen who spoke in the Visitation, *April* last, will make him subject to their just Animadversions, which I think he had better not merited. They have Parts and Spirit enough to defend themselves, and no doubt will judge, that they have as good a Right, to relate their own Words, and tell their own Story as either this Vindicator or I.

Before I conclude, I protest that to the best of my Knowledge and Memory, I cannot recollect that any Clergyman who spoke in that Visitation, introduc'd the Clergy of *Dublin*, as treating the Directions of his Grace, the Archbishop of *Dublin*, with the Disrespect and Disregard mentioned by the Writer of this Letter.

I long to hear from our Friends in Cork, and believe me to be,

Dear S I R,

Your faithful and most

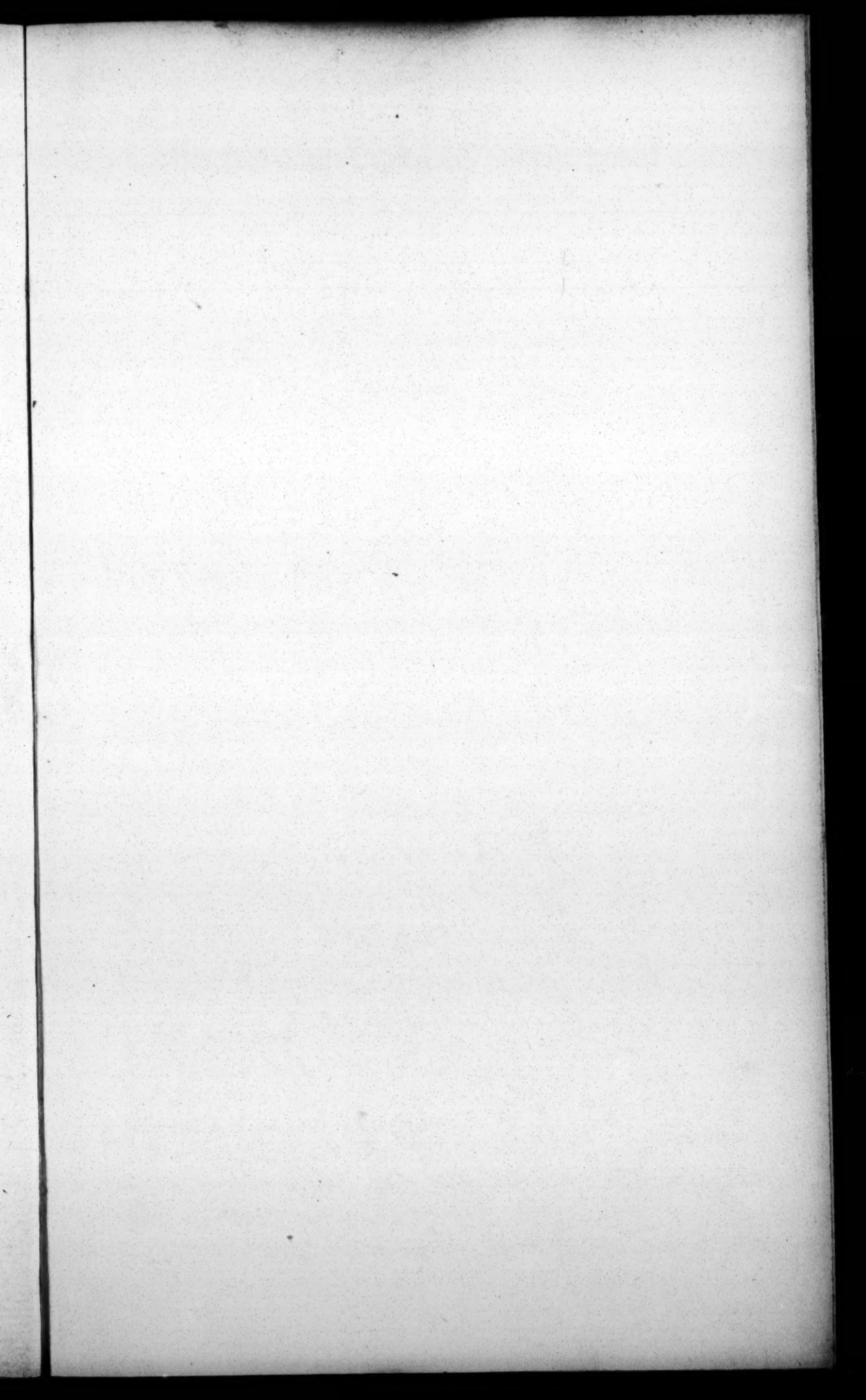
Humble Servant,

PHILADELPHICUS.

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